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PROD 1217

17 April 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: NIS Committee Member, Department of State
NIS Committee Member, Defense Intelligence Agency
NIS Committee Member, Department of the Army
NIS Committee Member, Department of the Navy
NIS Committee Member, Department of the Air Force

SUBJECT : Restructuring of the National Intelligence Survey Program

REFERENCE : D/BGI memo to DCI, dated 10 September 1971,
Subject: National Intelligence Survey Program--
assessment and plans

1. We have examined the considerations brought out in your responses to the proposal to eliminate the remaining detailed sections and to concentrate NIS resources on a revitalized General Survey. We have also analysed the detailed sections involved in terms of user rankings (1969 NIS user survey and 1970 DoD user survey), priorities assigned in the DCID No. 1/2 of 21 January 1972, current and projected production rates, manpower availability, and the feasibility of including in the new bound-by-chapter General Survey selected coverage from the detailed sections.

2. Concern was expressed by a number of military commands and operating forces. But this concern appears to be based on a misconception of the completeness of current NIS coverage. Due to past manpower and budget restrictions, several of the detailed sections asked for have been discontinued for some time; others were scheduled for elimination before my proposal was made. Still others have been reduced to a level of area coverage where continuing them as separate publications seems an uneconomic use of resources. However, significant parts of the more broadly useful data from the detailed sections mentioned in your responses can be incorporated to advantage into the new General Survey format.

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3. Attachment A outlines the basic elements that would comprise the proposed NIS Program. Attachment B summarizes our recommendations for incorporating some of the details into the General Survey.

4. With FY 72 fast drawing to a close and the desirability of securing USIB approval of the plan prior to the end of the year, I am also forwarding for your consideration a draft of a proposed memorandum to USIB on the subject (Attachment C). I would like to submit the matter to USIB soon after our May meeting.

JOHN KERRY KING
Chairman, NIS Committee

Attachments:

- A - Components of the National Intelligence Survey
- B - Data for inclusion in the General Survey
- C - Draft memorandum to USIB

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